

Vicksburg, Miss. Dec' 16<sup>th</sup> 1865.

Sir

Major General, O. O. Howard, Suffer me to address you a few lines in regard to the colored people in this State, from all I can learn and see, I think the colored people are in a great many ways being outraged beyond humanity, houses have been toun down from over the heades of women and Children—and the old Negroes after they have worked there till they are 70 or 80 yers of age drive them off in the cold to frieze and starve to death.

One Woman come to (Col) Thomas, the coldest day that has been this winter and said that she and her eight children lay out last night, and come near friezing after She had paid some wrent on the house. Some are being knocked down for saying they are free, while a great many are being worked just as they ust to be when Slaves, without any compensa-tion. Report came in town this morning that two colored women was found dead side the Jackson road with their throats cot lying side by side, I see an account in the Vicksburg. Journal where the (col) peple was having a parry where they formily had one, and got into a fuss and a gun was fired and passed into a house, they was forbidden not to have any more but did not heed. The result was the house was fired and a guard placed at the door. one man attempted to come out but was shot and throed back and burned. five was consumed in the flames, while the balance saught refuge in a church and it was fired and burned. The Rebbles are going a bout in many places through the State and robbing the colored peple of arms money and all they have and in many places killing.

So, General, to make short of a long story I think the safety of this country depenes upon giving the Colored man all the rights of a white man, and especialy the Rebs. and let him know that their is power enough in the arm of the Govenment to give Justice, to all her loyal citizens—

They talk of taking the armes a way from (col) people and arresting them and put them on farmes next month and if they go at that I think there will be trouble and in all proba-bility a great many lives lost. They have been accusing the colored peple of an insorection which is a lie, in order that they might get arms to,carrie out their wicked designs—

for to my own knowledge I have seen them buying arms and munitions ever since the lins have been opened and carring them to the country. In view of these things I would suggust to you if it is not incompatible with the public interest to pass some laws that will give protection to the colored men and meet out Justice to traters in arms.

For you have whiped them and tried them and found out that they will not do to be depended upon, now if you have any true harted men send them down here to carrie out your wishes through the Bureau in reguarde to the freedmen, if not get Congress to stick in a few competent colored men as they did in the army and the thing will all go right. A trouble now with the colored peple on account of Rebs. after they have rendered the Gov-ernment such great survice through the rebellion would spoil the whole thing—and it is what the Rebles would like to bring a bout, and they are doing all they can to prevent free labor, and reasestablish a kind of secondary slavery. Now believe me as a colored man that is a friend to law and order, I blive without the intervention of the General govenmnt in the protection of the (col) popble that there will be trouble in Miss. before spring. please ex-cuse this for I could not have said less and done the subject Justice. infact I could say more, but a hint to the wise is soficient. If you wish to drop me a line Direct Calvin. Holly, Vick Miss Box 2<sup>d</sup> yours Most Respectfully.

Calvin. Holly, colored Privt.

IF ONLY  
SOMEONE  
HAD  
LISTENED

# Legal Contract between MIAL + 27 FREED LABORERS

We Alonzo T. Mial of the County of Wake State of North Carolina of the one part, and the undersigned freed laborers of the other part have entered into the following Contract here in and after mentioned.

Witnesseth. That the Said laborers have agreed to work on the plantation of the Said Mial in the County of Wake and State aforesaid, from the date which Stands opposite their respective names to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1866. That we will rise at day brake and attend to all duties preparatory to getting to work by Sun rise, and work till Sun Set, and when ever necessary even after Sun Set to Secure the Crop from frost, or taking up fodder or housing Cotton in picking Season after the days work is over, or any other Small jobs liable to loss by not being attended to the night before. Stopping in the Spring and Summer months for dinner one hour and a half, at 12 O'C, and in the Fall and Winter [and] Spring months one hour.

That we will do our work faithfully and in good order, and will be respectful in our deportment to the Said Mial and family or Superintendent. That we will work under the directions and management of the Said Mial or any Superintendent whoes Services he may employ. That we will attend to all duties necessary to the plantation on Sundays, and will be responsible for the loss or damage from neglect or carelessness of all tools placed in our possession. The ordinary ware and tare of the Same excepted. And we further agree that time lost by idleness or absence without leave shall not be paid for, but for all time So lost we agree to pay double the amount of our wages and that all loss of time

from Sickness or absence with leave will not be paid for. Also That we will pay for our rations advanced during all lost time. And we further agree That one half of our monthly wages Shall be retained by The Said Mial till the end of the year, and the amount So retained Shall be forfeited by a violation of this Contract on our part.

The Said Mial has agreed on his part in Consideration of the faithful performance of the above obligations of the undersigned freed laborers to pay the Said laborers the amount of money pr. month which stands opposite their respective names, or in no event payment to be delayed longer than three months, reserving one half however of the above amount till the end of the year which amount shall then be paid if not forfeited by a violation of this Contract by the Said freed laborers. I also agree to furnish the first day of every month free of charge to every full hand fifteen <sup>lbs</sup> of Bacon and one Bushel of meal pr. month or as pr. amount which Stands opposite their respective names. I also agree to Sell to them for their family Support not in my employ provisions Such as I may have to Spare at the retail Shop price in the City of Raleigh. I also agree to give them half of every other Saturday between the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, and will furnish them land for a Small Crop. Also will furnish the teams and tools for the cultivation of the Same provided the teams and tools are not abused by Them. To all of which we do this day mutually agree. This the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January A. D. 1866.

Witness

Malcolm Hinton [signed]

A. T. Mial [signed]

No.	Names of Freed Laborers	Age	Pay pr. Mo.	Amount of Rations pr. Mo.	Date of Commencement
1	John his X mark Miles	29	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
2	Lewis his X mark Miles	63	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan. 1866
3	Dick his X mark Miles	68	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan. 1866
4	Allen his X mark Miles	39	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
5	Joseph his X mark Rhodes	21	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
6	Seaton his X mark Hinton	18	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
7	Scott his X mark Miles	37	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan. 1866
8	Short his X mark Alston	63	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
9	Frances her X mark Alston	20	\$6. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
10	Elizabeth her X mark Alston	18	\$5. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
11	Stetler his X mark Alston	15	\$4. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
12	Wiston his X mark Miles	47	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	10 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
13	George his X mark Miles	16	\$6.	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	10 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
14	Chapman his X mark Miles	14	\$6.	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	10 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
15	Joseph his X mark Miles	51	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
16	Robert his X mark Miles	20	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
17	Barnet his X mark Miles	17	\$6. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
18	Rheubin his X mark Miles	15	\$6. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
19	Rebecca her X mark Miles	11	\$3.	10 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
20	John his X mark Miles	9	\$2.	10 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1866
21	Calvin his X mark Miles	48	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
22	Alex Miles	12	\$2. <sup>00</sup>	10 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	1 Jan. 1866
23	Isaac High	21	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 1866
24	Haywood Whitley	25	\$10. <sup>00</sup>	15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb/66
25	Amanda Whitley	22	\$5. <sup>00</sup>	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	19 <sup>th</sup> Mar/66
26	Mary Whitley	38	\$5. <sup>00</sup>	furnished from table	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar/66
27	Henry Whitley	21	\$	12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 Bush Meal	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ap/66